

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/938,981

Examiner

Jerome Grant II

Applicant(s)

ANDERSON ET AL.

Art Unit

2626

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an amendment received July 26, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 15,17-22,24,26-30 and 32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 15 August 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

JEROME GRANT II
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Reasons for Allowance

1.

Claims 1-14, 16, 23, 25 and 31 are canceled.

2. Claim 17 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, wherein the reproduction unit is adapted to reproduce and print the image on a first side of a print medium based on the first image signal and in response to the blank signal, discontinue reproduction of the image and eject the print medium.

Claim 18 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, "... wherein the reproduction unit is adapted to reproduce and display the image based on the first image signal and in response to the blank signal, discontinue reproduction of the image and prevent display of a blank image.

Independent claim 20 and dependent claims 15, 19, 21 and 22 are allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, "... wherein, if the first side and the second side of the medium are both blank, the first side data signal includes a first blank signal and the second side data signal includes a second blank signal, wherein the image reproduction data signal includes the first blank signal and

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the second blank signal, and wherein, in response to the first blank signal and the second blank signal, the reproduction unit is adapted to discontinue reproduction of the image. “

Independent claim 32 and dependent claims 24, 28, 29 and 30 are allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach in claimed combination, “... wherein if the first side and the second side of the medium are both blank, generating the first side data signal includes generating a first blank signal and generating the second side data signal and includes generating a second blank signal, wherein reproducing the image includes, in response to the first blank signal and the second blank signal, discontinuing reproducing the image.”

Claim 26 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, “... wherein reproducing the image includes reproducing the image based on the first image signal including printing the image on a first side of a print medium and in response to the blank signal discontinuing reproducing the image including ejecting the print medium after printing the image on the first side of the print medium. “

Claims 27 is allowed for the reason the prior art does not teach or suggest in claimed combination, “... wherein reproducing the image includes reproducing the image based on the first image signal including displaying the image and in response to


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a blank signal, discontinuing reproducing the image including preventing display of a blank image."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jerome Grant II whose telephone number is 703-305-4391. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri. from 9:00 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A Williams, can be reached on 703-305-4863. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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